

"night" by elie wiesel

Literature



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BUSTER**

The book *Night* by Elie Wiesel took place during arguably one of the most tragic times in 1944-1945 in the Nazi concentration camps in Auschwitz. This story presents Wiesel's experience as a prisoner with his dad in the camps. Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor sheds light on some horrific events that had happened. He was an advocate for human rights because of the hardships that he faced in the Holocaust.

One event described in the story was when Elie was arriving at the concentration camps and was immediately hit by the horrible treatment. For example, being overstuffed in a cattle car with no room to breathe or sit down. "Not far from us, flames, huge flames, were rising from a ditch. something was being burned to there. a truck drew close and unloaded its hold: small children. Babies!" (page 32) This illustrates that he was not eased into the tragedies of what was the Holocaust was, he was hit with the cruelty right off of the bat. Arriving at the camp was probably the least physically painful but it definitely was an eye opener for what he was about to experience. There's no doubt that being in the Holocaust and then actually surviving it would give Wiesel an entirely new outlook on life and make him one of the biggest advocates for human rights. He would most likely want to participate in human rights to prevent history repeating itself later in the future so that no one else would have to endure what he did as a teenager.

Although it sounds insane that there would be any positive message or lesson that could emerge from the Holocaust there are some that Wiesel hints at in *Night*. The one that was very eye-catching is that sometimes a friendship or having people around is what will help get through tough

situations in life, having someone at your side like a teammate. For example when he says that " Friendship marks a life even more deeply than love. Love risks degenerating into obsession, friendship is never anything but sharing." its different than a romantic love it's just someone that you can rely on and share your secrets and someone to get someone else through hard times and that person throughout this book that friendship for Elie was with Tibi and Yosi. There were many other lessons that had popped up throughout the book like to never lose faith, no matter what it is that you choose to believe in don't let that go, because if you can't have a friend by your side the whole time there's at least that. This is shown when Wiesel starts to pray " Oh God, Master of the Universe, give me the strength never to do what Rabbi Eliahu's son has done."(91). Despite Wiesel slightly losing his faith because of the terrible events he clearly had chosen to stick with it as he prays to God that he won't end up willing to sacrifice his father like Rabbi Eliahu's son.

Throughout the novel, " Night" it is obvious that Elie Wiesel had been through more than his fair share of pain and hardship yet through it all never lost his faith, it may have faltered but was never gone. That was possibly what made him not turn bitter and cold but instead turned him into such a big advocate for human rights, because he was never alone if there was not a friend or familiar face there was still a small friendly reminder; when believing in what you would like to was okay, when it was okay to be a jew and not be punished for it. That reminder was what he believed in and prayed to, that reminder was his faith.